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Probers: CIA chief is clean

By FRANK VAN RIPER

Washington (News Bureau)—The Senate Intelligence Committee yesterday completed its investigation of CIA Director William J. Casey and found "no basis" to conclude that he is unfit to head the spy agency.

But committee sources said that a final report, expected within 30 days, on Casey's often-tangled business practices and allegations of stock manipulation against him and his associates will disclose "indications of many formerly unpublished improprieties, but none serious enough to bring about his resignation."

The three-month committee investigation of Casey began in July after Max C. Hugel, handpicked by Casey as CIA covert operations chief, resigned abruptly after he was accused of questionable stock market practices by two former business associates.

Chairman Barry Goldwater (R-Ariz.) after a one-hour, closed-door meeting, disclosed the finding and said the Senate panel also voted to urge the Reagan administration to scrap its proposal to let the CIA infiltrate and try to influence U.S. organizations.

"The CIA is meant to operate abroad, period," Vice Chairman Daniel P. Moynihan (D-N.Y.) said after the meeting.